

Amendment to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A drug dispenser comprising a drug case for containing a plurality of ~~drugs~~ drug packages stacked in a vertical direction ~~with a flange directed upward~~, each of the plurality of ~~drug packages~~ drugs being packed in a rectangular package having a flange at an upper side of the package ~~with the flange~~, and a pushing mechanism for pushing out the lowermost drug package in a horizontal direction, wherein a guide member is provided separately from the pushing mechanism for supporting and guiding the flange of the second drug package when the lowermost drug package is being pushed out, the guide member being ~~is provided~~ in a pushing direction of the ~~drug pushing mechanism~~ mechanism.

2. (Currently Amended) The drug dispenser of Claim 1, wherein the guide member is provided on at least ~~any one side of the~~ both two sides of the pushing direction ~~of the drug~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The drug dispenser of Claim 1, wherein the guide member is extended toward ~~the~~ a downstream side of the pushing direction ~~of the drug~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The drug dispenser of Claim 1, wherein the guide member supports and guides the flange of the drug package on ~~the~~ an upstream side of the pushing direction ~~of the drug~~.

5. (New) A dispenser for dispensing drugs contained in a package having an upper

flange, said dispenser comprising:

an upper case for containing a plurality of the packages stacked in a vertical direction;

a lower case connected to a lower end of said upper case;

a pushing mechanism, disposed in said lower case, for pushing out and dispensing the lowermost package in a horizontal pushing direction; and

at least one guide member disposed on a sidewall of said lower case for supporting and guiding the flange of the second lowermost package when the lowermost package is pushed out by said pushing mechanism, said guide member being provided above said pushing mechanism.

6. (New) The dispenser of claim 5, wherein said pushing mechanism comprises two rails, a screw disposed below and extending along the rails, and a pushing claw adapted to be driven in a forward direction and in a reverse direction upon rotation of the screw.

7. (New) The dispenser as claimed in claim 5, wherein said at least one guide member comprises a pair of guide members disposed on opposite side walls of said lower case.

8. (New) The dispenser as claimed in claim 7, wherein said guide members protrude from the side walls of said lower case and are disposed above said rails so

that a bottom surface of the lowermost package will not contact the rails when supported in a horizontal position by said guide members.

9. (New) The dispenser as claimed in claim 8, wherein said guide members function to support the flange of the second lowermost drug package when an upstream end of the second lowermost package, with respect to the pushing direction, drops due to the lowermost package being pushed out by said pushing mechanism.